

THE BAPTIST Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

NIGHT SHIFT

Youth Night date changes for '12

By William H. Perkins Jr.
Editor

Planners of Mississippi Baptist Youth Night 2012 want to remind Baptists around the state that the date for the annual Mississippi Baptist Convention Board (MBCB) event has been moved this year to April 20 because of potential conflicts with other events scheduled around the traditional July date.

The location will remain the same: the Mississippi Coliseum in Jackson, just off Interstate 55 at the High Street exit.

"This is a temporary date change," said Don Lum, MBCB director of evangelism and the producer of Youth Night. "We were faced with a growing list of scheduling difficulties and conflicts for July this year, so we thought it best to move Youth Night to a date earlier in the year so that more people can attend."

"The scheduling problems have simply been beyond our control but appear to be isolated to this year, so we are working to return Youth Night to an appropriate July date in 2013."

Speaker for Mississippi Baptist Youth Night 2012 will be Stuart Hall, an Atlanta-based youth evangelist and training director for two non-profit organizations, XP3 and DASH INC. He is the co-author of three books and is currently working on two additional books.

Praise and worship will be provided by Kristian Stanfill of Cumming, Ga., and his band. Stanfill released an EP entitled Hello in 2007, and the full-length CDs, Attention, in 2009, and Mountains Move, in 2011. He is a former worship leader at North Point Community Church in Alpharetta, Ga.

He holds three Dove Awards from the Gospel Music Association and was nominated for two other Dove Awards. He has also been involved in Louis Giglio's Passion organization and has performed at numerous Passion Conferences.

Another major change for this year's event is the purpose of the offering that will be taken, Lum said.

"In years past, the offering at Mississippi Baptist Youth Night has been used to assist with the expenses of putting on the event," he pointed out. "Last year, we simply asked for a five dollar donation per person at the door. This year we will return to an offering that will be dedicated to helping Mississippi Baptist students fulfill their mission endeavors both in the state and in areas outside the state."

"The Mississippi Cooperative Program is fully financing Youth Night this year so that the offering can go 100% to student missions. There will be no admission charge, and the offering will help Mississippi Baptist students who have a passion for missions."

Doors at the Mississippi Coliseum will open at 5:30 p.m. The program will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Youth Night
2012

Speaker: Stuart Hall
Music: Kristian Stanfill

FRIDAY, APRIL 20 - COLISEUM, JACKSON
6:30 P.M. • DOORS OPEN AT 5:30 • MISSION OFFERING RECEIVED

Lum advised attendees to arrive at the Coliseum as early as possible. "We understand that many groups will be traveling long distances after schools let out in order to attend. Youth Night is usually a standing room only event, so it's going to be important to be there as close to 5:30 p.m. as possible," he said.

Counselor training will begin at 5:30 p.m. "These trained, volunteer counselors will be available to assist young people who need spiritual guidance after the program," Lum said.

"Mississippi Baptist Youth Night is one of the many special events sponsored annually by the Mississippi Cooperative Program that gives young people the opportunity not only to worship with their peers but also to hear the

Gospel presented in a setting specially prepared for them.

"Many decisions for Christ will be made at the events, thanks to the faithful praying and giving of Mississippi Baptists of all ages who are helping to build the foundation for the next generation of Baptist leaders in our state and beyond," Lum said.

Mike Brister, student pastor at First Church, Jackson, is serving as event coordinator.

For more information on Mississippi Baptist Youth Night 2012, contact Joy Ellis, Ministry Assistant, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board Evangelism Department, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Telephone: (601) 292-3278 or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651, ext. 278. E-mail: jellis@mbcb.org. Web site: mbcb.org.

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#8, 2012
#VOL. 136
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Fund established to assist storm victims

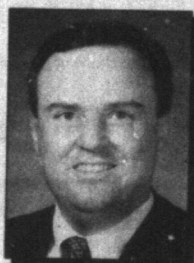
JACKSON (Special) — Jim Didlake, director of men's ministry at the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board (MBCB), announced that a special fund has been set up through the MBCB Business Office for persons wishing to donate to the March 1 storm victims in eastern Kentucky, Ohio, Tennessee, north Georgia, central Alabama, western Virginia, and the Carolinas. Those storms resulted in 100 confirmed tornados, 28 fatalities, and more than 700 reports of damaging winds.

Didlake, who also serves as coordinator of the Mississippi Baptist Disaster Relief Task Force, said the task force remains on standby in case the call comes for assistance in cleanup and recovery.

Checks should be made out to the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, with Victim Assistance Fund noted on the memo line, and mailed to MBCB Business Office, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530.



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Dr. James Dobson, with Focus on the Family, pleads for our action. An organization has been granted a Federal Hearing by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in Washington, D.C. Their petition, #2493, would ultimately pave the way to stop the reading of the gospel of our Lord and Savior on the airwaves of America. They got 287,000 signatures to back their stand! If this attempt is successful, all Sunday worship services being broadcast on the radio or by television will be stopped. This group is also campaigning to remove all Christmas programs and Christmas carols from public schools! You, as a Christian, can help! We are praying for at least one million signatures.

This would defeat their effort and show that there are many Christians alive, well, and concerned about our country. As Christians, we must unite on this. Please don't take this lightly. We ignored one lady once and lost prayer in our schools and in offices across the nation. Please stand up for your religious freedom and let your voice be heard. Together we can make a difference in our country while creating an opportunity for the lost to know the Lord.

Please press "forward," clean up the message, and forward this to everyone you think should read this. Now, please sign your name at the bottom. Don't delete any other names, just go to the next number and type your name. Please do not sign jointly, such as Mr. & Mrs. each person should sign his/her own name.

INTERNET RUMORS — To investigate Internet rumors, first go to the web site of the individual or organization that is mentioned in the e-mail, such as James Dobson and Focus on the Family. The web sites of these individuals and organizations often have special sections devoted to rumors. Secondly, a number of web sites exist for the purpose of dispelling Internet rumors and hoaxes, including www.shopes.com and www.truthorfiction.com. (Note: The mention of particular web sites not controlled by The Baptist Record or the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board does not imply endorsement. Caution is recommended.)

Last week an administrative committee for my denomination, the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC), approved a recommendation that the SBC adopt the informal name of "Great Commission Baptists." I might have made a different choice, but I will support this one.

I agree with the task force that the equity we have in the SBC name is helpful in many respects and whatever could be gained by changing the name of the denomination cannot measure up to what would be lost from our nearly 170-year history.

However, there is also much negative baggage that comes with the name — some because of what we believe, but some because of how we act. That history is what has brought us to this juncture.

It is widely known that the founders of the convention split from the North for reasons that included the right to appoint slave-holding missionaries. That leaves a deep scar. Furthermore, the fact that many Southern Baptists were on the wrong side of those hoses in Birmingham, Ala., a century later also leaves a scar.

There are, of course, many other issues caused by bad decisions and bad relationships.

High tech gossip

Apparently, many thousands of people have received this breathless e-mail plea over the past several years, if not the last several months. Problem is, it's not true.

The urban legend about petition 2493 has circulated with different types of pleas and 'calls for action' for many years. In fact, Focus on the Family has recently learned of a version of the rumor that said that Dr. Dobson himself was asking for people to respond to the e-mail by signing a petition and circulating it to their friends and family. Please be assured that this is not true; Dr. Dobson did not initiate an e-mail petition, according to a statement Focus on the Family's official web site.

Unfortunately, the old Madalyn Murray O'Hair petition is making the rounds again, this time updated with James Dobson's name and zipped across the country at the effortless speed of e-mail. Christians, of all people, should not engage in such wasteful and ineffective activities as high tech gossip — and that's exactly what this is.

"Sadly, some Christians have embraced urban legends, developing a whole catalog of fables that are often used as affirmation of our faith in the Bible or to warn of a threat against religious liberties. The problem is that by uncritically forwarding some of these e-mails, we often violate the command against bearing false witness, and we hurt the church's credibility when we then try to preach a Gospel of truth," said Focus on the Family senior online editor Greg Hartman, in Focus on the Family magazine.

"Christians should not rush to believe, much less repeat, unsubstantiated gossip. After all, it is the glory of kings to search out a matter (Proverbs 25:2). As we damage our credibility, so do we damage our ability to witness to the ultimate truth of the Gospel.

"E-mail is a powerful tool, but its ability to quickly, widely, and cheaply disseminate information is only as helpful as the information being spread. As stewards of truth for the rest of the world, Christians need to be judicious in their use of the forwarding button," Hartman said.

That's good advice. In the future, let's all check out such gossip before we pass it on.



GUEST OPINION:



Accept new name; act like it, too

By Ed Stetzer
Nashville

Some people don't like the SBC because of what it stands for — and we can take the hits for that but let's be honest: much of this bad reputation has been earned by bad actions.

Thus, the new name isn't the only — nor the most important — change needed. I believe there are three needs facing the Southern Baptist Convention currently that new resurgences, name changes, and study groups can't fix.

• **First is a need to stop bickering and infighting.** My fear is the proposed name change will drive an even deeper wedge in an already wide rift between different SBC factions. Baptists always seem to need a bogeyman, and changing the name won't change that. This infighting, name-calling, and dishonest "watchblogging" must stop

if the convention as a whole is to progress. We must speak up and call for unity, honesty and cooperation among leaders and their blogging proxies. Tolerate nothing less.

• **Secondly, we must work together to promote cooperation.** We are a convention that needs to work in a unified manner toward a unified goal: that the world might know Christ, and God be glorified through that. The promise of the SBC's conservative resurgence was that we would eventually agree on enough to cooperate for global missions. Well, when will that day come?

• **Finally, we need to keep the goal in sight.** The new moniker, Great Commission Baptists, does that. If nothing else, every time we think of our additional

name, we will be reminded of what we should be doing. Clinging solely to our legal name, Southern Baptist Convention, would have worked functionally, but Great Commission Baptists speaks to our DNA. We don't need to be primarily "Southern" or "conventional," but a group of churches on mission.

Our goal is to be about the task for which Jesus called us.

I say it often, but it's worth repeating: God is a sending God, and we are a sent people. The most profound instruction we ever have received as it relates to our mission is the Great Commission. I've written about it in almost a dozen books on evangelism, missions, and outreach. It's my life's ministry agenda and it is why I stay SBC. If we keep the Great Commission as our focus we can succeed as a convention no matter the name.

Southern Baptists, let us act like Great Commission Baptists. That will both help fix the reputation of the old name and build a good reputation for the new nickname.

Stetzer is president of LifeWay Research, a division of LifeWay Christian Resources in Nashville.

Pro-life women speak out against edict

WASHINGTON (BP) — The battle over the Obama administration's contraceptive/abortion mandate is about religious freedom, not the availability of birth control, women leaders inside and outside Congress say.

Speaking at a Capitol Hill news conference on March 1, two U.S. House of Representatives members and spokeswomen for 10 organizations explained their opposition — and that of millions of other women — to the controversial requirement.

"The other side is trying to make this appear to be about access," Jeanne Monahan of the Family Research Council told reporters. "Let's be clear. This is not about access. This is about religious liberty."

The women expressed their opposition to the mandate less than two hours after the U.S. Senate turned down an attempt to protect religious freedom and conscience rights under the controversial rule. Senators voted 51-48 to table and essentially defeat an amendment designed to guard the "religious beliefs or moral convictions" of those offering and purchasing insurance under the health care law enacted in 2010.

The rule, finalized in January, requires health insurance plans to cover without cost to employees sterilizations and contraceptives, including contraceptives that can cause abortions, as part of preventive services. The contraceptives, as designated by the federal government, include drugs such as ella and the morning-after pill Plan B that act after fertilization to prevent implantation in the uterus and thereby destroying a human embryo.



Monahan

Religious liberty advocates have criticized what they have described as an inadequate religious exemption in the mandate. They contend an accommodation announced Feb. 10 by U.S. President Barack Obama would still require religious organizations to be complicit in paying for employees' abortion-causing contraceptives through their insurance companies.

Critics have pointed out the president's compromise won't protect faith-based insurance plans or individuals who object to paying for such products.

"Clearly, the Free Exercise Clause of the First Amendment is intended to protect people from such trampling of their religious convictions," according to a statement from the Ethics & Southern Baptist Religious Liberty Commission (ERLC) in Nashville, read by Kenda Bartlett, a trustee of the Southern Baptist entity.

The ERLC statement was jointly written by ERLC president Richard Land, and Barrett Duke, ERLC's vice president for public policy and research.

"Unfortunately, the Obama administration has declared that religious conviction is not an acceptable reason for exemption from this requirement. The Obama administration has declared war on religion and conscience. This must not stand," she said.

Congresswoman Marsha Blackburn, R-Tenn., said at the news conference, "It is the first time ever, the first time ever in this country, that we are seeing a fee on faith...and when that happens, religious liberty is not free."

In support of their contention that the mandate fight is not over contraception, speakers made these points:

- The federal government spent nearly two billion dollars on family planning in the 2011 fiscal year, Monahan said.

- Nine of 10 insurance providers cover contraceptives approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Monahan said.

- More than 8,000 clinics in this country offer birth control "at little or no cost, and it is universally available in any number of retail stores," said Charmaine Yoest, president of Americans United for Life.

"Clearly, [contraception] is readily accessible. What is at stake here is the Obama administration's agenda of forcing all Americans to pay for life-ending drugs," Yoest told reporters. "Pregnancy is not a disease for which ending an unborn life is the cure."

Penny Nance, president of Concerned Women for America, said at the news conference, "Although there may be diversity among us regarding the [issue] of contraceptives, we stand united in defense of religious freedom. When religious groups are forced to deny their deeply held religious convictions, it's not called 'balance,' as this administration says. No, I'm sorry, it's called 'tyranny.'"

Day Gardner, president of the National Black Pro-life Union, issued a warning, saying Americans "must realize that if this mandate is allowed to stand that this administration could use the same exact authority to mandate that all health plans pay for elective abortion on demand."

The news conference provided something of a counterweight to the message promoted by Democrats in Congress and family planning/abortion rights advocates that protests against the mandate are based on opposition to women's rights and contraceptives.

"It's thrown about as if women are one big monolithic group with [U.S. Senator] Barbara Boxer [D-Cal.] as our self-appointed spokesperson," Nance told reporters. "Let me be very clear that neither Barbara Boxer nor [U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services] Kathleen Sebelius nor Cecile Richards [president of Planned Parenthood Federation of America] represents any of us standing here today."

Planned Parenthood Federation of America, which operates a chain of family planning clinics, is the country's leading abortion provider and receives hundreds of millions of taxpayer dollars each year for health and contraceptive care for women.

Others speaking at the March 1 news conference were Congresswoman Diane Black, R-Tenn., and representatives of the Independent Women's Forum, Eagle Forum, American Association of Christian Schools, Liberty University, and the Young Women for America chapter at Liberty University.

Supporters of stronger conscience protections in the contraceptive/abortion mandate are backing a House bill by Congressman Jeff Fortenberry, R-Nebr., that was a companion to the Senate proposal that was tabled.

Fortenberry has 219 cosponsors for his legislation, which is the Respect for Rights of Conscience Act, H.R. 1179.



MISSISSIPPI
BAPTISTS

THE SECOND FRONT PAGE

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No. 10



YOU CAN RESPOND
RIGHT NOW!

Simply share the following prayer with God in your own words:

1. Lord, I admit that I need you. (I have sinned.)
2. I want forgiveness for my sins and freedom from eternal death. (I repent.)
3. I believe Jesus died and rose from the grave to forgive my sins and to restore my relationship with you. (I believe in Jesus.)
4. By faith, I invite Jesus Christ into my life. From this time on, I want to live in a loving relationship with Him. (I receive Christ as my Savior and Lord.)

"But as many as received him, to them he gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in his name." (John 1:12)

If you make a decision for Jesus Christ today, contact a local Baptist church for spiritual guidance.

Leaders slam compromise

WASHINGTON (BP) — A diverse coalition of 500-plus religious leaders, university presidents and professors, and health care professionals has signed a statement calling U.S. President Barack Obama's contraceptive/abortion compromise a grave violation of religious freedom that cannot stand. "The simple fact is that the Obama administration is compelling religious people and institutions who are employers to purchase a health insurance contract that provides abortion-inducing drugs, contraception, and sterilization," the Feb. 27 letter reads. "It is an insult to the intelligence of Catholics, Protestants, Eastern Orthodox Christians, Jews, Muslims, and other people of faith and conscience to imagine that they will accept an assault on their religious liberty if only it is covered up by a cheap accounting trick. Under the new rule, the government still coerces religious institutions and individuals to purchase insurance policies that include the very same services" that were offered before the compromise, the statement reads. "It is no answer to respond that the religious employers are not 'paying' for this aspect of the insurance coverage... This so-called 'accommodation' changes nothing of moral substance and fails to remove the assault on religious liberty and the rights of conscience which gave rise to the controversy. It is certainly no compromise." Among the Baptist signers were Paige Patterson, president of Southwestern Seminary; R. Albert Mohler Jr., president of Southern Baptist Seminary; and Daniel Akin, president of Southeastern Seminary.

Looking back

10 years ago

Dayna Curry and Heather Mercer, arrested and held for months by the Taliban in Afghanistan for the offense of spreading Christianity, speak at First Church, Jackson.

20 years ago

A U.S. Senate committee approves legislation lifting a White House-supported ban on federal funding of transplantation research using fetal tissue from induced abortions. Massachusetts Senator Ted Kennedy and the Labor and Human Relations Committee sponsored the bill.

50 years ago

In a lunchtime chat with Southern Baptist leaders in Nashville, Billy Graham assures them, "My loyalties are more with this denomination today than they were two years or five years ago. God has called Southern Baptists to do a specific work in a critical hour of world history."

While I attend church all of the time and on an average just about every day, I rarely go to church where I am a genuine, bona fide visitor. More often than not I am at my church, at another church for a special occasion, or I am an invited speaker. That is different than just being a visitor. In the Scripture, you could probably draw a parallel with God's words to Israel about strangers that would come among them. God gave instructions on how the strangers were to be treated and especially in light of the fact that the Israelites had been strangers in other lands.

On this particular occasion I was a long way from home attending a meeting and nothing was planned for Sunday morning, so I was going to go to church. I found a church not far from where I was staying. Since I could not find the time of the services in the phone book, online, and not even on their sign out front, I got there early to try to anticipate the time and I began the journey of being a stranger in a foreign land. What I discovered at that church on that Sunday morning wasn't what I was anticipating, but it certainly turned out to be what I needed. Let me share with you three thoughts about my visitation.

My first thought is *what I got*. When I got to the church that morning I found that they actually had two services. One they called traditional and the other they called contemporary. I had arrived in time for the traditional service, but decided to stay and experience the contemporary service as well. That in itself was an interesting experience because they sang the same songs and had the same order of service. The pastor preached the same sermon and both of them were good services. Both were well attended with a good mix of young and old, children and youth, in both services.

What I observed was an interesting thing that I had not anticipated. There was a difference in the services. What they called their contemporary service was marked by expectations and expressions. This had nothing to do with the songs or the sermon but everything to do with the people who were worshipping. As I saw folks of all ages gathering, there was a growing sense of optimism and energy as we came to the second service. I thought to myself that you probably could discount the first service for not having that kind of expectations because it was earlier. But it wasn't that early and by the time we came to the close of the first service it was later and they still were not awake.



Directions

Jim Futral, executive director-treasurer
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

While the minister of music tried to lead them in singing it was to no avail and while the preacher was basically the same at both services the first service responded to what he had to say with a glorified yawn.

It was remarkable to watch a large congregation come to worship God and experience Him in all of the dimensions of worship with a sense of expectation, eagerness, faith, and joy. The expressions on their faces and in their body language told the story. I promise you that if both services were videoed with no sound and all that you saw was an hour of the congregation you would see a remarkable difference when they sang, prayed, responded to the baptism that was taking place, or the Word that was being preached. What I got was a lesson in the power of congregational participation.

The second thought that I would like to share with you is *to tell you who I met*. As a visitor I was looking for those friendly faces or connectable moments that would at least make me feel like I was not a leper. I must tell you I found none. When I got to the church there was a large welcome center in the foyer, but no one was there. At one end of the foyer I saw a man that appeared to be an usher because he had a stack of bulletins in his hand. I walked toward him and he turned, walked in the other direction, and disappeared. The bottom line fact is that no one spoke to me. I finally saw a stack of bulletins and got one of them. I went in, found me a seat, and while I said no one spoke to me that is not true. The only one who spoke to me in either service was a person sitting in front of me and when they had the "welcome everybody around you" moment in the service

on both occasions after I spoke the person responded, "It is good to see you today."

But in reality, other than the obligatory nod to someone who sits around you no one said or did anything. But hear me out: While no person spoke to me, God did. The music was meaningful in both services and the pastor was obviously prepared in mind and heart bringing a practical, personal, and probing Word from the Lord. It could not help but speak to our needs and bring solutions found only in the Lord. While I was trying to sit in the service making mental notes about how many people did not speak to me even when I spoke to them, the Lord came and knocked on my heart's door and said, "Jim, I am here. I have a word for you!"

I found myself sitting at the feet of Jesus in a traditional service and a contemporary service in a crowd of folks where no one spoke and not one soul within a hundred miles knew who I was. God knew where I was, what I needed, spoke His Word to my heart, and inspired me. As we sang and worshipped together, I met God.

A third thought that I would share with you is *what I learned*. It was a day or two later that I was asking someone from the area about that church only to discover that while it was a Baptist church, it was not a Southern Baptist

church. Well I can make a great case for the fact that God has used Southern Baptists through the years and in my own life I have been so blessed by Southern Baptist churches, institutions, and agencies who have encouraged me and been heroes and mentors. It is a good lesson to relearn that all of God's people and all of His work are not being done simply by people who carry my label. Had I known at the time where I was worshipping, I probably would have factored that into my thought process of what was taking place, who the people were, and was the pastor theologically orthodox. Instead of hearing God's voice to my heart and my need, I would just have been analyzing if not criticizing what was going on around me. I was reminded that different does not always equal bad. It may simply mean different.

On reflection I reminded myself that neither John the Baptist, the Apostle Paul, Matthew, Mark, Luke, nor John were Southern Baptists. To the best of my knowledge they initially did not even have their written works published by LifeWay, but God amazingly used them even as He did a church on a Sunday morning when a group of people joined together to worship the living Jesus and a caring pastor opened the Word of God and spoke to a visitor's heart.

While I am confident that we could do a lot better job in reaching out to the strangers that come among us, I was blessed and reminded that it is not just about the interaction with those of us who come, but whether or not there is a meeting with our risen Lord. Be in church Sunday! The Lord will meet you there.

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BIBLIOCIPHER

By Charles Marx, 1932 - 2004
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DTFOF BSAXFZ ZST
FMHT LTFZTAUML,
MKU ZJUM, MKU CJA
TWTA.
STYATNF ZSXAZTTK:
TXRSZ

Clue: R = G

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: First Peter One: Twenty-five



MS POSITIONS

FBC FLORA IS SEEKING A P/T CHILDREN'S MINISTER. Please send resumes to P. O. Box 163, Flora, MS 39071 or e-mail to jcole@fbcflora.org.

BEULAH BAPTIST CHURCH, DECATUR, MS IS SEEKING A FULL TIME PASTOR. Mail resumes to Beulah Baptist Church, Pastor Search Committee, 12954 Hickory Little Rock Rd., Decatur, MS 39327 or e-mail to g.pinson@beulahsouth.net.

HARRISBURG BAPTIST CHURCH, TUPELO, MS, is seeking a MINISTER TO STUDENTS. Please send resumes to Harrisburg Baptist Church, c/o MTS Search Committee, 4675 Cliff Gookin Blvd., Tupelo, MS 38801. Any questions, please e-mail tim.roberts@bbs.com

THE FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH OF ECRU, MS, IS SEEKING A PART-TIME WORSHIP LEADER. We are a Southern Baptist Church with a blended style of worship. The worship leader will be responsible for leading the praise band and choir in leading Sunday morning worship. Submit resumes to Jonathan Baker, Pastor, at 85 Friendship Road, Ecrú, MS 38841 or to jonathan.baker@fbccru.com.

GALILEE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, GLOSTER, MS, IS SEEKING A PASTOR. Please send resume to Galilee First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 118, Gloster, Ms., 39638. Attention: Pastor Search Committee.

THE NEWTON SCOTT BAPTIST ASSOCIATION IS ACCEPTING RESUMES FOR A FULL TIME AREA MISSIONS DIRECTOR. Please mail resumes to P.O. Box 719, Decatur, MS, 39327. Attention: AMD Search Committee.

HICKORY RIDGE BAPTIST CHURCH IS SEEKING A PART TIME CHILDREN'S LEADER full of compassion and love for our future leaders. Please email resumes to mattie5@windstream.net or you mail them to Hickory Ridge Baptist Church, 1124 Mullican Road, Florence, MS 39073 Attn: Becky

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH OF BRAXTON, MS IN SEARCH OF A MINISTER OF YOUTH. Resumes can be emailed to charityw80@bell-south.net or mailed to PO Box 111 Braxton, MS 39044. For Question please call Charity Welch @ 6016682179. Deadline 03-16-12.

What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light; and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the

HOUSE TOPS.

Matthew 10:27 NAS

March 8, 2012

HouseTops is a Baptist Record supplement produced by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Communication Services.



WITNESSING THROUGH MEDIA

AWARDS AND WORKSHOP 2012

May 4, 6-9 p.m.; May 5, 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

COLONIAL HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH, RIDGELAND, MISS.

WORKSHOP THEMES INCLUDE:

Fundamentals of Camera Operation; Sound Advice, Basic and Advanced; Getting Started on the Web; Web Site Design Advanced; Lighting for Worship; Lighting for Drama, Special Presentations; Getting Started in Media Ministry; Projection Systems & Worship Software; Creative Production Techniques

2012 Awards Banquet
speaker
Mike Ebert
Vice President,
Communications
NAMB



For more information contact Ian Richardson, Communication Services director, at 601-292-3378 or 1-800-748-1651 (Mississippi only).

Church Building Conference LifeWay Church Architecture

Location: Baptist Building, Skyroom, Jackson

March 20, 2012

8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Leaders are invited to attend this event to receive quality church facility information.

Contact Keith Gordon for more information, 601-292-3307 or 1-800-748-1651, ext 307.

Registration requested; to register, e-mail cwtaylor@mbcb.org.

Pastor/Leadership Development Dept., MBCB

GROWING CHURCHES

Sponsored by 13 South Mississippi associations and the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

The Story: Telling it in an Ever Changing World

July 27-28, 2012

Temple Baptist Church, Hattiesburg

Event includes worship, special tracks, small group conferences and more. Learn strategies for sharing **The Story** with: preschoolers, children, students, adults, and the world. *Special track available for Spanish speakers.

For more information contact Don Hicks at dhicks@mbcb.org or 601-292-3287

UFM Retiro de Misiones • WMU Spanish Missions Retreat

Viernes 23 de Marzo 5 p.m. hasta Sábado 24 de Marzo 4 p.m.
Friday, March 23, 5 p.m. through Saturday, March 24, 4 p.m.



¡Sin Impedimento!

Líderes de Influencia e Integridad

Unhindered!

Leaders of influence and integrity

Conferencista/Special Guest
Annette Racey



LIFE COMMITMENT SUNDAY

Choose a time to focus attention on God's calling to vocational ministry and the need for all believers to find their place of leadership in His work. Suggested emphasis date: April 15

Contact Alan Woodward for more information, 601-292-3308 or 1-800-748-1651, ext. 308.
Pastor/Leadership Development Dept., MBCB

2012 Senior Adult Day Retreats

FBC, Batesville
May 29
Preacher
Mickey Dalrymple
Brandon

FBC, McComb
May 22
Preacher:
Wayne VanHorn, MC

15th Ave. BC, Meridian
May 24
Preacher
Chuck Kelley
President of NOBTS

Breakout Sessions to include:

Shaping Up to Share, Fun Time Sharing the Good News, Grandparent Bible Storytelling, New Beginnings in the Senior Years, Teaching the Story of Jesus from the Psalms, Choir, Gatherings


Cost: \$5 at the door or one week before the registration date to receive the gift bag. Mail Registration To: MSCB Conference Office, PO Box 530, Jackson MS 39205 or call 800-748-1651, ext. 216

MISSISSIPPI BSU Adopt a Summer Missionary

Deadline: May 15, 2012

Your church can help support Mississippi college and university student summer missionaries in the work that God has called them to do this year. Some specific ways you can help:

 **Pray** - these students need your daily prayers as they serve.

 **Provide** - provide small things they may need while they serve on the field. Some ideas of what to include in a care package: Wal-mart gift cards; small toiletry items; notes of encouragement to open throughout the summer; supplies they may need for ministry.

If your church would like to adopt a Mississippi BSU summer missionary, go to our Web site, www.missionsnow.net, choose "Churches" and "Adopt a Missionary" to complete the form online.

Contact Peggy Powell in the Collegiate Ministry Department with questions — 601-292-3299.

2012 National Missionary Parents Fellowship Retreat

**Mississippi
Missionary
Fellowship**
April 21, 2012

at Garaywa Camp and Conference Center
please register by Friday, April 13, 2012

Download the registration form by going to mbcb.org, clicking "Events," "WMU," and selecting the MMF event. Contact Alicia, at 601-924-7034 or adungan@garaywa.org, for more information.

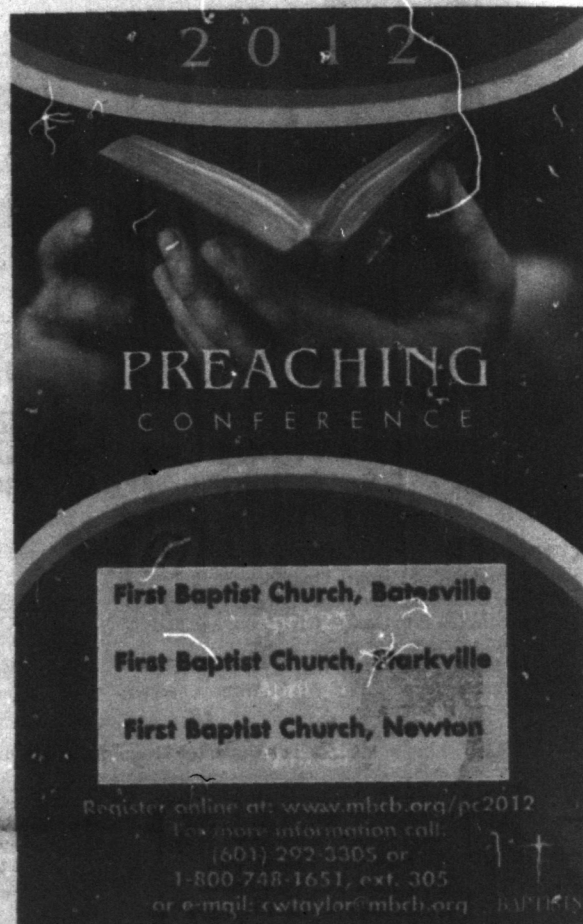
April 27-29, 2012
Shocco Springs Baptist Conference Center
Talladega, Alabama

Program guests include:

Terri Willie
IMB National Relations
Office director

IMB missionaries

Tom Ellis
IMB president



2012

PREACHING CONFERENCE

First Baptist Church, Batesville
First Baptist Church, Clarksville
First Baptist Church, Newton

Register online at: www.mbcb.org/pc2012
For more information call:
(601) 292-3305 or
1-800-748-1651, ext. 305
or e-mail: cwtaylor@mbcb.org

COME JOIN THE FUN! GARAYWA 2012 MISSIONS CAMP FOR GIRLS

**Registration
open now!**

Register online at
www.garaywa.org.

For more information, please contact
Karen at 601-924-7034.

DATES

Missions Camp
for Students:

June 25-29
July 9-13

Missions Camp for Girls:

June 11-15
June 18-22
June 25-29
July 2-4 (Mini Camp)
July 9-13
July 16-20
July 23-27

WWW.GARAYWA.ORG

25TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION

Lead

MS SUPER SUMMER 2012

JULY 16-20, 2012
MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE

FOR REGISTRATION INFORMATION

WWW.MSSUPERSUMMER.COM



VBS Church Leadership Training

6:30 - 9 p.m.

CONFERENCES

- Preschool and Children
- Pastors and General Officers
- Children's Rotation: Missions, Music, Crafts, Snacks
- Club VBS: Space Quest
- Conferences also offered for non-LifeWay users.
- VBS evangelism, promotion, follow-up and more.

April 10, 2012

Springdale BC, Ripley, MS
FBC Wiggins, Wiggins, MS

April 12, 2012

FBC Eupora, Eupora, MS
North Oxford BC, Oxford, MS

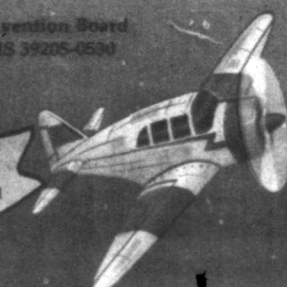
April 17, 2012

Liberty BC, Liberty, MS
FBC Grenada, Grenada, MS

For more information contact Angie Boydston at
aboystun@mbcb.org or
Carolyn Day at cday@mbcb.org
or call 1-800-748-1651, ext. 291, or 601-292-3291

Mississippi Baptist Convention Board
PO Box 530, Jackson MS 39205-0530

Reserve your seat today!
Pre-register today and get a free VBS inflatable!



MBCB Student Connect Camp 2012

Invitation of the College
and Seminary Leaders

3 Camps to Choose from

Session I:
June 4-7
Central Hills Baptist
Parish, Pearl

Speaker:
Gory Farmer

Session II:
June 7-10
Central Hills Baptist
Parish, Pearl

Speaker:
Gory Farmer

Session III:
June 11-14
Blue Mountain
College

Speaker:
Kevin Cooper

For more information contact Rene Edwards at
601-292-3283 or redwards@mbcb.org, or contact Kari Hall at 601-292-3286 or [khill@mbcb.org](mailto:khall@mbcb.org)

ANNOUNCING NEW DATE: FRIDAY, APRIL 20
COLISEUM, JACKSON • 6:30 P.M.

Youth Night 2012

Speaker:
Stuart Hall

Kristen Stanhill

Pray this day for...

March 9 - 22, 2012

"The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth."

Psalm 145:18

Pray for: a team of eight from **Faith BC, Meridian**, traveling to Kenya to minister through evangelism, March 9-18.

Pray for: a team of 14 from **Southern Miss BSU** traveling to Vancouver to minister through church plant support, March 10-17.

Pray for: a team of 25 from **FBC, Raymond**, traveling to Rochester to minister through evangelism with a new church plant, March 10-16.

Pray for: a team of 26 from **Richmond BC, Tupelo**, traveling to Toledo, Ohio, to assist the Northwest Baptist Association with outreach and evangelism, March 10-15.

Pray for: a team of 16 from **Mt Manna BC, Coldwater**, traveling to the Dominican Republic to minister through church planting and evangelism, March 10-17.

Pray for: a team of 10 from **Lauderdale Baptist Association** traveling to the Dominican Republic to minister through VBS and evangelism, March 10-17.

Pray for: a team of 25 from **Cleary BC, Florence**, traveling to the Dominican Republic to minister through evangelism, March 10-17.

Pray that God will continue to bless the work done by a team of 25 from **FBC, Kosciusko**, in the Dominican Republic. The team ministered through VBS, medical and sports clinics, March 10-18.

Pray that God will continue to bless the work done by a team of three from **Grace BC, Philadelphia**, in Honduras. The team ministered through VBS and family outreach, March 11-18.

Pray for: a team of five from **Pleasant Hill BC, Bogue Chitto**, traveling to Thailand to minister through music and evangelism, March 13-28.

Pray for: **Marty* and Mary* Roberts**, IMB missionaries ministering to European Peoples in the United States through strategy coordination, church and home outreach, and evangelism.

Pray for: **Steven* and Ruth* Robertson**, IMB missionaries ministering to Sub-Saharan African Peoples in the United States through church and home outreach, evangelism, and financial administration support.

*These International Mission Board missionaries claim Mississippi as their home state. The IMB missionaries listed in the HouseTops prayer calendar are currently active in 2-4 year terms or in career service.

Mississippi Baptist State Ministry Assistants Conference April 16-17, 2012

**PEACE
LOVE
& JOY**

The conference full of invaluable training, equipping, and fellowship for Mississippi ministry assistants returns this year to Garaywa Camp & Conference Center in Clinton.

For more information, or to register, contact Cathy Taylor, ministry assistant, Pastor/Leadership Development Dept., at 601-292-3305 or cwtaylor@mbcb.org.

Grandparent Day Retreat

For Grandparents and Grandchildren
(Children ages 6 - 15)

Saturday, April 28
From 10 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Central Hills Baptist Retreat
6377 Attala Road 4227
West MS 39192

For more information:
662-289-9730

MISS TAYLOR DEWETT
5-1-08

Parents: Ted & Kerri
American Peoples

MISS KAMRYN DEWETT
5-1-08

Parents: Ted & Kerri
American Peoples

MISS ADRIANN S.
5-3-99

Parents: Jerry & Kelly
Restricted

MR. PATRICK N.
5-5-00

Parents: J & J
Restricted

MR. JACKSON HOLEMAN
5-14-99

Parents: Jeff & Liesa
America Affinity Group

MR. PATRICK AUSTIN
5-15-96

Parents: Arnold & Susie
American Peoples

MISS ADDIE GRACE PUTNAM
5-16-00

Parents: Tracy & Genie
European Peoples

MR KONNER HORTON
5-16-91

Parents: Francis & Angie
Baptist Global Response

MR MICAH PEACOCK
5-16-96

Parents: Kevin & Brenda
European Peoples

MISS KATHRYN C.
5-22-00

Parents: J & T
Restricted

MISS SADIE C.
5-22-11

Parents: J & T
Restricted

MISS ANNA CLAIRE
5-23-01

Parents: Jim & Penni
Last Frontier

MISS SARAH S.
5-24-11

Parents: J & C
Restricted

MR. J. D.
5-24-10

Parents: D & L
Restricted

MISS LAURA PURL
5-24-91

Parents: John & Amy
European Peoples



MISS DARCY D.
5-26-06

Parents: D. & M.
European Peoples

MR. CRUZ WHITE
5-26-10

Parents: David & Regina
American Peoples

MR. CALEB S.
05-29-03

Parents: Spencer & Melanie
Last Frontier

Encourage an MK with a card!

FOR SECURITY, cards will be forwarded. Please send all to: Child's name, Parent's name, MBCB WMU MK Birthdays, PO Box 530, Jackson MS 39205. PLEASE NOTE: Church members may send a package of cards together; cards do not have to be sent individually to the WMU. Individual cards do not need postage stamps when sent as a package to MS WMU.

► Please include your return address on each card envelope. MKs and their parents may wish to send you an update or note of appreciation.



HOUSE TOPS

THE VILLAGE VIEW



Dr. Rory Lee, Executive Director

P.O. Box 27
Clinton, MS 39060-0027
(601) 922-2242

www.baptistchildrensvillage.com

GIFTS OF HONOR AND MEMORY

A portion of The Village View is allocated each month to a list of Gifts of Honor and Memory. Many groups and individuals elect to pay tribute to others through this sensitive, meaningful, and helpful medium. This feature is hopefully designed to further honor, with taste and respect, those who are and have been special to our special friends.

DECEMBER 6 — 31, 2011

MEMORIALS

Geri Harden
Ms. Karen LaFontaine
Ken Harrelson
Ralph, Cheryl Leigh & Mary Lynn Perkins
Capt. Anthony Ray "Tony" Harris
Raymond & Betty Harris
Mike Harris
The Jean Moss Family
Mr. William Hart
Bessie & Pete Saway
Carl Haskins
Mrs. Tena Haskins
Carr Haskins
Mrs. Tena Haskins
Susan Haskins
Mrs. Tena Haskins
Bea & Lavon Hatten
Bonnie & Guy Thornton
Mae Hazzard
Mrs. Kathy Gibson
Mr. Samuel Hazzard
Tommy & Carley Page
Dave Karlskint
Vickie Edwards
Michelle Kurtz
Gabby Lau
Rob Loughrin
Stephen Hunter
Bob Turner
David Greenberg
Tim Hearn
Mrs. Ida Mae Bridges
Mrs. Belinda Johnson
Henderson
Dr. Rebecca Sue Wilkie
G. W. Hester
James & Peggy Palmer
Mary Lillie Hill
John & Kathleen Milford
Mr. Woodrow Hodges
Mr. & Mrs. Greg L. Wilkinson
Mr. Herbert Hoff
Mrs. Tena Haskins
Bobby & Patsy Brock
Jimmy & Jo Ann Carruth

M. L. & Camille Honea
Don & Suzanne Honea
Mr. "Red" Hood
Rev. & Mrs. Jimmy Breland
Mr. James O. Hopkins
Rev. & Mrs. Jimmy Breland
Melanie Gray Hudson
Mr. & Mrs. John R. Watson
Mrs. Doris Huffman
C. Pollans SSC, Friendship BC
Mr. Ricky Hughes
Mr. & Mrs. Greg L. Wilkinson
Mr. Kent Hull
Arch & Karen Howell
Mr. Joe Lee Jackson
Charlie & Wanda Brister & Family
Mrs. Gail Kirkland
Addie Kirkland
James & Maudie Dixon
Mr. & Mrs. Greg L. Wilkinson
James Norman Jenkins
Annie Mae & Vernon Hilderbrand
Peggy & Dennis Posey
Charly & Carol Reagin
R. L. Jenkins
John Dell Fucabee
Bettie Carl Meek
Danny & Nancy Shows
Mr. Wiley Jenkins
Arch & Karen Howell
Norman Jenkins
Paul & Thelma Adams
Joann & John Butler
Edith & Janelle Cook
Mrs. Inez Jennings
Jerry & Rose Ann Ivey
Mrs. Louise (Frances) Johnson
Mrs. Mary Ann Rosier
Mr. Charlie C. Watkins
Mrs. Lucille Johnson
Mr. & Mrs. Leroy Peeples
Dorothy L. Johnston
Mr. & Mrs. Wayne R. Hall
Bettye Campbell Jones
Don & Suzanne Honea

Mrs. Polly Jones
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Jennings
Robert A. Kales
Concord BC-Yazoo City
Samuel Clayton Kelly
Mrs. Lamar P. Chustz
Walker Kelly
Mrs. Lamar P. Chustz
Mr. Kenny Kerben
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Jenkins
Betty Ann Keys
Mr. Mike Graham
Mr. James A. Kidd
Mr. & Mrs. Lee A. Kidd
Mr. Jim Kinabrew
Mr. & Mrs. Greg L. Wilkinson
Myrtilla & Matthew Kirk
Nancy & Gail Parker
Mrs. Karen Koonce
Kaye & Curtis Buchanan
Dunn Lampton
Mr. & Mrs. Craig Haskins
Irene Lankford
James & Peggy Palmer
Meredith Bryanne Lee
Billy & Shirley Hastings
David Nathan Legge
Dr. Rebecca Sue Wilkie
Mr. & Mrs. Ira F. Legge
Dr. Rebecca Sue Wilkie
Mrs. Tola Lewis
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Jenkins
Mr. & Mrs. R. H. Lilly
Dr. & Mrs. Gerald J. Hasselman
Frances Livingston
Ms. Bobbie J. Dickey
Kay Lofton
Barney & Paula Albritton
Rev. Billy Mack Lowery
The R. G. Sullivan Family
Rev. W. R. "Chubby" Lowery
The Corp Comm Team
Larry & Mary Glass
Mr. & Mrs. Wayne R. Hall
Winfred Reese Lowery
Lonnice & Miriam Harper
Mrs. Barbara Lack
Mrs. Aggie Martin
Chuck & Mary Henderson
Ruth Massingale
Preschool Dept.
Midway BC
Ms. Twila Rawson
Mrs. Mary McCarty
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Jenkins
Miss Lynn McCormick
Mrs. Libby Gordon
Lillie Mae McDuff
Valley Park BC
Marveth K. McKee
Rudy & Tommye Lou Grenn
Mrs. Eva McKinney
Kaye & Curtis Buchanan
Keith McManus
Mrs. Jane P. Brumfield
Mrs. Billie McMorris
Mr. & Mrs. Greg L. Wilkinson
Mrs. Carol Meadors
Dr. & Mrs. L. H. Fulcher Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Jennings Orr
Linda Meadows
Mr. & Mrs. John R. Watson
Mr. Tommy Merriman
Dr. Rebecca Sue Wilkie
Mick Miller
Jess & Janet Dickinson
Mr. Gerald Miller
Mr. & Mrs. Greg L. Wilkinson
Mr. William R. Mills
Ms. Marion H. Mills
Mrs. Gale Milton
Barney & Paula Albritton
Anthony & Wanda DeLee
Don & Suzanne Honea
Mr. & Mrs. Krandaill Howell
Bobby & Patsy Brock
Mr. & Mrs. Brooks H. Polk Jr.

Doris T. Mitchell
Ms. Gail M. Moran
Doris Dickerson Mooney
Mr. & Mrs. John R. Watson
Mrs. Susie Moreland
Wai-Lok George & Judy Chen
Mr. J. T. Morrison
Mr. & Mrs. Judd A. Morrison
Mr. Vern Moser
Mrs. Louise D. Williams
Barger Moss
Mr. & Mrs. Harry K. Woods
Mary Murdock
Ms. Bobbie L. Roberts
Doug Nettles
Mrs. Minnie Jo Hill & Family
John M. Newell
Mike & Cheryl Calcote
James & Betty Crosby
John A. Nowell Jr.
Mrs. Betty N. Richardson
James W. Nowell
Mrs. Betty N. Richardson
Janette Nowell
Mrs. Betty N. Richardson
Mr. & Mrs. J. Aldred Nowell
Mrs. Betty N. Richardson
Mrs. Harold Odom
Mrs. Joy B. Roberts
Mrs. Jo Pearl Odom
Willie & Edith Pierce
Mr. George C. Parker
Ms. Sylvia M. Nutt
Ms. Sue Sykes
Mrs. Ruth K. Nevels
Elizabeth Parkerson
J. B. & Geneva Coleman
Mrs. Patricia Parrish
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Jenkins
Mike Parsons
Mr. & Mrs. E. C. Parsons
Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Parsons
Mr. & Mrs. E. C. Parsons
Joe Partridge
Mrs. Arlene Collier
Donald Patterson
Ms. Twila Rawson
Mr. Albert L. "Slick" Payne
Mr. & Mrs. Krandaill Howell
Mr. & Mrs. Ron D. Craddock
James & Maudie Dixon
Bobby & Patsy Brock
Mr. & Mrs. Brooks H. Polk Jr.
Mr. Ted Peager
Branch BC, Morton
Winnie J. Peary
Mrs. Judy P. Forster
Linda Pearson
Pete & Deanna Kirk
James Peay
Empty Nester SSC, FBC
Starkville
Mr. James Creighton "J.C." Peay
The Busquaert Family
Mrs. Mavis James
Ms. Annis Peay
Lorenzen
Mr. Edward Springer
Mrs. Emily Peay Willett
Mr. Arty Finkelberg
Marlon Pepper
Jerry & Janie Sisco
Mr. Joe Pittman
Mr. & Mrs. Greg L. Wilkinson
Mrs. Ernest (Hilda) Polk
Dr. & Mrs. Jim Brewer
Colby Porter
Mr. & Mrs. Wayne McGee
Virginia Dupree Pouncey
C. B. & Evelyn Sledge
Mr. John W. Powell
Mr. & Mrs. Greg L. Wilkinson
Roger Prentiss
Vic & Sherry Walsh
Mr. John Provenza
Kaye & Curtis Buchanan
Mr. Cotton Quick
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Jenkins
Mrs. Christine Reagan
Arch & Karen Howell
Guy Reedy
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Hart

Robert Revere
Bill, Stewart & Trent Curtis
Olivia Rhodes
Mr. Cecil B. Rhodes
Minnie Rials
Ronnie & Cheryl Case
W. Preston Rikard
Mr. & Mrs. William A. Nichols
Christopher Rives
Charles & Nancy Wilbanks
Adin Moore Roberts
Ray & Ouida Roberts
Margaret Rogers
Don & Suzanne Honea
Mr. & Mrs. Earl Routh
Charles & Trudie Weeks
Mr. Alvin Roy
Stanton BC, Natchez
Louis Runnels
Debbie & Darrell Ainsworth
Curtis Rushing
Jerry & Janie Sisco
Markey Rushing
Carl & Eunice Woolery
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Russell
Mr. & Mrs. E. C. Parsons
Shelley Sandefur
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Sandefur
Mr. Don Sandifer
The Tony Rogers Family
Mike & Cheryl Calcote
Joel & Margaret Rushing
Jerry & Janie Sisco
Frances & Joe Speights
Traci Sasser
Barney & Paula Albritton
Maggie R. Schwarzauber
Ms. Hope Hawkins
Mr. & Mrs. Ernest C. Scruggs
Dr. Rebecca Sue Wilkie
Mr. Cecil Seay
Mr. & Mrs. Greg L. Wilkinson
Mrs. Peggy Sims
Mr. & Mrs. Perry E. Atherton
Mrs. Mary Strunk
Mr. & Mrs. Greg L. Wilkinson
Bryan & Nettie Smith
Miss Sarah Marie Smith
Mr. Burley E. Smith
BFMW Group, PLLC
Mr. & Mrs. Robert E. Coker
Mr. & Mrs. Camp King
Cris & Eddie Guillot
Mr. Miller P. Holmes Jr.
Donald Lee Smith
The Robert Sullivan Family
Grady Smith
Mrs. Tena Haskins
J. B. Smith
Rev. Robert & Martha Smith
Janet Smith
Mr. & Mrs. Virgil Calcote
Ken Smith
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Curtis & Family
Mike Smith
The Tony Rogers Family
Jerry & Janie Sisco
Minnie Ruth Smith
Jess & Janet Dickinson
Willie H. & Edith C. Smith
Miss Janet C. Smith
Dan Southerland
Ms. Ann Southerland
Mr. John D. Speights
Mrs. Mary D. Hartford
O. D. Sprattin
Bereans SSC, N Oxford BC
Mrs. Louise B. Staples
Mrs. Ilene Thompson
Alliston
Kaye & Curtis Buchanan
Melvin & Mary Nell Starrett
John & Mary Allred
Kenneth W. Statham Sr.
Mrs. Allyne Statham
Susan Marie Statham
Mrs. Allyne Statham
Mr. John Steel
Mr. & Mrs. Greg L. Wilkinson

B. H. Stephens
Ms. Carolyn S. Jones
Mattie Stevens
Jess & Janet Dickinson
Mrs. Ruby Stevens
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Mr. Royce Stewart
Mike & Brenda Dean
Mrs. Teresa M. Stewart
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Mr. Wayne Stokes
Mr. & Mrs. Greg L. Wilkinson
Gene Stringer
Jess & Janet Dickinson
Mr. Emmett Sullivan
Mr. & Mrs. Greg L. Wilkinson
Mrs. Reba Summers
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Jenkins
Donald Taylor
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Jenkins
Mrs. Peggy S. Taylor
Avery
GardensHomeowners Assoc
NY SSC, Christ United
MC-Jackson
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Ms. Kerin C. Sallie
Mrs. Bartley T. Statham
Mary & Chico Taylor
Ms. Martha M. Taylor
Mrs. Alabel M. Wiser
Mr. & Mrs. Robert R. Clark
Raymon & Beverly Farmer
Mr. & Mrs. B. Bryan Jones III
Larry, Sarah, Read and Dan Kerr
Madge King & Family
Ben & Nancy Morgan
Mr. & Mrs. Eugene R. Naylor
Bettie & Bill Neal
Percy & Hilda Peeler
Mrs. Arlene H. Rubel
Mr. & Mrs. Percy J. Shook
Decker & Martha Terry
Jeff Thames
Joyful Hearts,
Arlington Hights BC
George Thomas
Mr. & Mrs. Harry K. Woods
George Randle Thomas
Mr. & Mrs. Ford Griffith
Dr. Ed Thompson
Ms. Elizabeth T. Wood
Janie Thompson
Ms. Julie H. Halfacre
Mrs. Myra Martin Thornhill
Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Brown
Geraldine Tolar
Dr. & Mrs. Rory Lee
Ashley Toler
Mrs. Gail Kirkland
Jeremy Toler
Mrs. Gail Kirkland
Dr. Sammy Trammell
Frances & Joe Speights
Mrs. Brenda Versiga
Arlington Heights BC
Mrs. Dottie Voorhies
Kaye & Curtis Buchanan
Dr. Thomas F. Walker
Mrs. Lucille H. Harris
Ms. Juanita Wright

BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE

I Call On You

Psalm 86:1-13, 15-16

By Betty Davis

How would you describe the word "worship"? Our studies this month will help us learn what worship is and how the relationship grows between the worshiper and Jesus Christ.

There are different ways to worship; by yourself or during a church worship service. Prayer is a wonderful way to worship; talking to God and listening for His reply. Some people pray when they are driving alone on the way to work or school. The beautiful world causes a lot of us to praise God and thank Him for His creations. We feed birds outside a glass door near our dining table. They are so beautiful. It's easy to say "We praise you God for these thoughtful gifts." In daily quiet time, many people use the acrostic of the word: A C T S to organize their prayers.

A = Adoration,
C = Confession,
T = Thanksgiving, and
S = Supplication.

It's refreshing to attend and participate together in worship services as we hear God's Word read aloud, listen to our pastor preach the message God gave him for us to hear, and pause quietly as a designated person leads us in prayer. May our prayer life help us grow closer to God as we call on Him to help us, then thank Him when He answers our prayers.

Hear Me
Psalm 86:1-7

Samuel was a great man who judged the land of Israel for many years. The Lord sent him to Bethlehem to a man who had eight sons. One of these sons would be God's choice to be anointed as the next king. Seven sons of Jesse passed before



Davis

Samuel but none of them were God's choice. Samuel asked Jesse if there were any more sons. Jesse called his youngest son, David who was tending sheep nearby. As soon as David arrived, the Lord said to Samuel, "Arise, anoint him: for this is he." Samuel poured oil on David in the presence of his brethren. And the spirit of the Lord came upon David from that day forward. (1 Samuel 16:1-3) Later, David wrote most of the Psalms.

Psalm 86:1-7 David repeated a similar call to God from Psalm 17:6 "I call on You, my God, for you will answer me; turn your ear to me and hear my prayer." David humbly asked for God's protection and mercy. David's pleading words to the Lord: (Psalm 86 NIV) Hear me, answer me (v.1), Guard my life, save your servant (v.2), Have mercy on me (v.3), Bring joy (v.4), Hear my prayer (v.6), and in verse 11, Teach me your way, Give me an undivided heart. He acknowledged

God's kindness, forgiveness, and love, assured that God would answer his prayer.

Teach Me
Psalm 86: 8-13

In the continuation of the same prayer, David compliments the Lord by acknowledging His attributes: There is none like You; No deeds can compare with Yours; All nations will worship and glorify You; You are great and do marvelous deeds; You alone are God; I will praise you — forever.

Some ways we can learn to have a deeper prayer time with God might be to listen as others pray, talk often with God, pray aloud when asked, pray from a prepared list, and memorize scripture verses that praise and thank God. Remember to pray for people in your town, city, state, country, and countries around the world. Do you believe God hears and answers your prayers? "So let us come boldly to the very throne of God and stay there to receive His mercy and to find grace to help us in our times of need."

Help Me
Psalm 18:15-16

David expresses his complete dependence on God. He believes that God is all powerful and yet He is compassionate, slow to anger, full of love, forgiving, faithful and merciful. David feels sure God will protect and deliver him from his enemies. Philippians 4:6,7 (TLB) "Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything; (call on Him). Tell God your needs and don't forget to thank Him for His answers. If you do this, you will experience God's peace..." Psalm 65:2 (TLB) says "And because you answer prayer, all mankind (nations) will come to you with their requests."

Davis is a member of Fellowship Church, Meridian.

EXPLORE THE BIBLE

A Unique Person: Praise God

Luke 2:1-52

By Kelly Mitchell

The only time I ever felt my wife a threat to my personal safety was during a midnight run to the Hospital while she was in premature labor with the twins. Mind you, I have a background as an EMT and Police Officer. Panic had been mostly trained out of me. Plus this was our second difficult pregnancy and we were on our tenth or fifteenth trip through that scenario. I had achieved something of a comfort zone. Kim, plainly, had not. Long story short, my sense of urgency did not match with her level of discomfort. I did what any self-respecting husband would do, I changed my worldview to hers and sped up.

Now, we were in a minivan on a 20 minute drive and had packed for the possibility of a

two to three day stay. I cannot begin to imagine what the worry that Joseph and Mary endured on the realization that they would have to travel to Bethlehem, 400 miles as the crow flies, while also in the late stages of a pregnancy. I would not have attempted it in the minivan. Never mind the argument over whether or not they walked or Mary rode a donkey. Giving someone a donkey to ride, in my opinion, is not doing anyone any favors.

As we emphasized last week in Luke's mechanical documentation of the life of Jesus, both Mary and Joseph received divine revelation to give them the courage and resolve to tell such an unlikely story. But what was it that pushed them into such an unlikely journey?



Mitchell

Sure, they probably knew of the prophecy that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2) and anticipated being in Bethlehem when the time came but there are a lot of things written in God's word that we ignore with far less in the way of excuse.

If Mary's response in Chapter 1 modeled the steps to Joy in our Faith, Chapter 2 and the birth of Christ models the steps to becoming a Disciple maker.

Step 1, An Act of Faithfulness (Luke 2:3-7). The call went out for the census and Joseph and Mary responded accordingly even though they had a strong motivation to ignore this particular call. Mary and Joseph moved forward even though they would be out in the weather for a long period of time and passing through or near a hostile region. I don't know many OBGYN's that would stamp off on that plan.

Obviously, there was a concern greater than the trip.

Step 2, Faithfulness Allows Heavenly Response (Luke 2:8-14). Because Joseph and Mary went, Jesus was born in Bethlehem as prophesied. The angels immediately began to worship and praise the new king. Then they began to call new witnesses to this event and others were blessed by their presence and instruction.

Step 3, Others Came to Worship and Praise (Luke 2:15-20). Mary and Joseph's faithfulness has set off a whole chain of events resulting in an outbreak of evangelism. The angels were moved to worship and praise. The call of the angels drew the shepherds who were also moved to worship and praise. The shepherds then turned and went to tell anyone they can find of the amazing thing that they have seen. All of this because Joseph and Mary chose to do something deeply impractical. So we are left with the question I posed at the beginning, why? What did they have that

so many of us seem to be missing? I assert that it was a healthy fear of God.

Knowing God's Word and God's plan for the occasion could only carry them so far. When the moment of decision came, what were they more concerned about? The idea of such a foolish journey? Or the idea of displeasing God? They risked the trip rather than risking displeasing God.

Here are some questions to discuss in Sunday School this week: When is the last time you did something because God said so and for no other reason? If we follow the model in Luke Chapter 2, where does disciple making begin? You never know who is watching and what their response will be. You never know who might come to Christ because you feared God over other consequences. You also never know who might stay away because you did not.

Mitchell is pastor of Main Street Church, Goodman.

Guidelines for submitting news and photographs

The Baptist Record is pleased to publish news and photographs of special events that take place in cooperating churches of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

News submitted for publication in The Baptist Record must be either (a) typewritten, (b) neatly printed on 8 1/2 by 11-inch paper, or (c) neatly printed on standardized forms provided by the newspaper. All articles must be received in writing; no articles will be accepted over the telephone.

News may be submitted electronically to the address below, and must be contained in the message segment of an e-mail form. Due to increasing virus threats, no text attachments will be accepted. Photograph attachments are permissible.

THE BAPTIST Record

Please make articles concise. Include the who, what, when, where details of the story, along with a contact person's address and telephone number.

Photographs may be color or black and white. Instant photos and digital printouts are not reproducible. Digital photos may be used if

submitted as a JPEG file via either e-mail, CD or DVD. Photos must be clear, sharp, and well-lighted. Cell phone photographs and other low resolution items are generally not publishable. Photographs can not be returned. Please do not attach photos with tape or staples.

All news items are subject to editing, and all photographs are subject to cropping. Photographs must depict people. No landscape, building, or object-only photographs will be printed. News items and/or photographs can be published one time only. News items and/or photographs depicting benefits and activities for secular or outside organizations will not be published. Deadline for submitting news is one week prior to requested publication date.

Articles that are not date-sensitive will be published on a space-available basis.

Submit news and photographs to The Baptist Record, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. FAX: (601) 292-3330. E-mail: baptistrecord@mbcb.org.

REVIVALS & HOMECOMINGS

- Benton Church, Yazoo Association:** Revival, Mar. 25 - 28; Sun., 10:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.; Mon. - Wed., 7 p.m.; Charles Moore, Jon Vanlandingham, and Richard Jennings, speakers; Barry Pounds, music; Kim Ketchum, keyboard; Charles Moore, pastor.
- Galilee Church, Hazlehurst:** Revival, Mar. 18 - 21; 7 p.m. nightly; James Messer, speaker.
- Providence Church, Cleveland:** Revival, Mar. 11 - 14; Sun., 11 a.m. and 5:45 p.m.; Mon. - Wed., 7 p.m.; Tom Cox, speaker; Kay Cox, special music/children; Richard Webster, music; J.B. Hays, Jr., pastor.
- Wheeler Grove Church, Corinth:** Bailey Smith Real Evangelism Conference, Mar. 21 - 23; Wed., 6:30 p.m., Ergun Caner and Bailey Smith; Thurs., 10 a.m., Bill Stafford and Junior Hill; 1:45 p.m., Bill Stafford and Kara Blackard; 6:30 p.m., Freedom Singers, Jerry Vines; Fri., 10 a.m., Bob Pitman and Ron Lynch; 1:45 p.m., Mike Stone and Rick Coram; 6:30 p.m., Tommy Steele; other music, Mike Speck Trio and Triumphant Quartet; meals provided Thursday and Friday.
- Rocky Mount Church, Calhoun Association:** Revival, Mar. 11 - 14; Sun., 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Mon. - Wed., 7 p.m.; Randall Creel, speaker; Linda Haire, music; Larry W. Haggard, pastor.
- River Bend Church, Aberdeen:** Revival, Mar. 11 - 14; Sun., 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon. - Wed., 7 p.m.; Dan Robertson, speaker; Phillip Willis, worship leader; Roy McHenry, pastor.

STATE CHANGES

- Glenn Davis has retired after twenty-five years as pastor of First Church, Sumrall. He is available for Bible conferences, revivals, pulpit supply, retreats, etc. He may be contacted at (601) 270-6167 or gdavis4589@gmail.com

COLLEGE NEWS



1. Bateman and Butler

- Robert Bateman (left), Professor of Biochemistry for the William Carey University College of Osteopathic Medicine (WCUCOM), accepts The Dudley F. Peeler Outstanding Contributions to the Mississippi Academy of Sciences Award from Ken Butler, associate editor of the Journal of the Mississippi Academy of Sciences and assistant professor at the University of Mississippi of Medical Center, at the 76th annual meeting at the Hattiesburg Lake Terrace Convention Center February 23-24.
- The second annual Clinton — Mississippi College Night with the Mississippi Braves will be at Trustmark Park, Pearl, Apr. 9. MC supporters and those from Clinton will receive a 50% discount with proper ID. For more information, contact MC's Andy Kanengiser at (601)925-7760 or Sandi Beason of the Clinton district at (601)924-7533.

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OBITUARY

- Billy B. Blakely, 80, longtime pastor of Coila Church in Coila, died of cancer at his residence in Coila on February 26. Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m. on February 28, at Coila Church. Burial followed in the Coila Cemetery in Coila, with military honors at graveside. Bob Blakely and Melvin Mordecai officiated the services. Blakely was born in Bolivar County on February 2, 1932, to Calvin Eugene Blakely and Ruby Lee Lyles Blakely. He was a retired contractor and the pastor of Coila Church in Coila, having first come to the church in February of 1978. During the 34 years of his leadership, the church saw much growth, both in membership and in the physical buildings. He was instrumental in the planning and the actual construction of the church fellowship hall and in the several additions made to the church during his pastorate. In 1998, Bro. Blakely presided over Coila's 175th anniversary celebration. Survivors include his wife of 59 years, Dwight Fulton Blakely of Coila; one daughter, Lisa Blakely Cheek and her husband, David, of Coila; two sons, Bobby Blakely of Coila and Bob Blakely and his wife, Shannon, of Madison; one grandson, Jason Blakely and his wife, Leslie, of Mathiston; two great-grandchildren, Dylan and Lindsey Blakely of Mathiston; two sisters, Annie Mae Goss of North Carrollton and Ruby Lillian Baker of Prattville, Alabama; six brothers, Marion Eugene Blakely of Madison, Rev. Robert Earl Blakely of Greenwood, David Blakely of Oxford, Larry Blakely of Gulf Shores, Alabama, Harry Blakely of Belzoni, and Dean Blakely of Judah, Wisconsin; and many nieces and nephews. Blakely was preceded in death by his son, Keith Blakely; his parents, Calvin and Ruby Blakely; a sister, Elizabeth Osbourne; and two brothers, James Albert Blakely and Bruce Blakely.

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